

Committee Meetings

FY 2012 BUDGET

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a business meeting to consider the Budget Views and Estimates Letter of the Committee on Agriculture for the agencies and programs under jurisdiction of the Committee for FY2012.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Requests. Testimony was heard from Elisabeth Hagen, Under Secretary for Food Safety, Department of Agriculture.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Harley G. Lappin, Director, Bureau of Prisons.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request for the Department of Energy. Testimony was heard from Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget Securities and Exchange Commission. Testimony was heard from Mary L. Schapiro, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on FY 2012 Oversight & Budget. Testimony was heard from John Pistole, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing on Pell Grants. Testimony was heard from Martha Kanter, Under Secretary, Department of Education.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on FY 2012 Budget. Testimony was heard from Stephen T. Ayers, Architect of the Capitol.

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Testimony was heard from Daniel W. Yohannes, Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Housing and Urban Development—Transformation Initiative FY 2012 Oversight and Budget. Testimony was heard from the following HUD officials: Jerry Williams, Chief Information Officer; Estelle Richman, Chief Operating Officer; and Raphael Bostic, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on military health system overview and Defense Health Program cost efficiencies. Testimony was heard from Clifford L. Stanley, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; Jonathan Woodson, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs; LTG Eric Schoomaker, USA, Surgeon General; VADM Adam Robinson, USN, Surgeon General; and Lt. Gen. Charles Bruce Green, USAF, Surgeon General.

LONG-TERM READINESS CHALLENGES IN THE PACIFIC

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on long-term readiness challenges in the Pacific. Testimony was heard from Jackalyn Pfannenstiel, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Energy, Installations and Environment; Michael Schiffer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, East Asia; and Major General Randolph Alles, Director, J-5, Strategic Planning and Policy, U.S. Pacific Command.

FY 2012 BUDGET—NATIONAL SECURITY SPACE ACTIVITIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing on the fiscal year 2012 national defense authorization budget request for national security space activities. Testimony was heard

from Erin C. Conaton, Under Secretary of the Air Force, DOD; Gen. William L. Shelton, USAF, Commander, Air Force Space Command; Gregory L. Schulte, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Space Policy, DOD; and Betty Sapp, Principal Deputy Director, National Reconnaissance Office.

TACTICAL AVIATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force tactical aviation programs. Testimony was heard from David M. Van Buren, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air force for Acquisition, USAF; VADM David Venlet, USN, Program Executive Officer, F-35 Lightning II Program, DOD; Michael J. Sullivan, Director for Acquisition and Sourcing, GAO; VADM Mark Skinner, USN, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Research, Development and Acquisition, USN; Lt. Gen. Terry G. Robling, USMC, Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps for Aviation, USMC; Rear Admiral Kenneth E. Floyd, USN, Director of the Air Warfare Division, Lt. Gen. Mark D. “Shack” Shackelford, USAF, Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition; and Lt. Gen. Herbert J. “Hawk” Carlisle, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations.

BURYING SCHOOLS IN PAPERWORK

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education held a hearing on Education Regulations: Burying Schools in Paperwork. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 910, the Energy Tax Prevention Act of 2011; and H.J. Res. 37, a resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission with respect to regulating the Internet and broadband industry practices. H.R. 910 was ordered reported, as amended; and H.J. Res. 37, was ordered reported, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup and passed, as amended, their Views and Estimates of the Committee on Financial Services on Matters to be Set Forth in the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2012.

STRENGTHENING THE BORDER

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security held a hearing entitled “Strengthening the Border—Finding the Right Mix

of Personnel, Infrastructure and Technology.” Testimony was heard from the following Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security officials: Michael J. Fisher, Chief of the Border Patrol; Mark Borkowski, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Technology Innovation and Acquisition; and Michael C. Kostelnik, Assistant Commissioner, Office of CBP Air & Marine; also, MG Hugo E. Salazar, Adjutant General, Arizona National Guard; and Richard M. Stana, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, GAO.

WIRELESS TAX FAIRNESS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on H.R. 1002, the “Wireless Tax Fairness Act of 2011.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION, AND SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing entitled “Examining the Spending, Priorities and the Missions of the Bonneville Power Administration, the Western Area Power Administration, the Southwestern Power Administration and the Southeastern Power Administration” including the President’s Fiscal Year 2012 budget requests and other spending as it relates to the four Power Marketing Administrations. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

STATE AND MUNICIPAL DEBT

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on TARP, Financial Services and Bailouts of Public and Private Programs held a hearing entitled, “State and Municipal Debt: The Coming Crisis? Part II.” Testimony was heard from Dan Liljenquist, State Senator, Utah; and public witnesses.

OBAMACARE AND WAIVERS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care, District of Columbia, Census and the National Archives held a hearing entitled, “Obamacare: Why the Need for Waivers?” Testimony was heard from Steven Larsen, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and public witnesses.

**HAMP TERMINATION ACT OF 2011; AND
NSP TERMINATION ACT OF 2011**

Committee on Rules: The Committee granted, by voice vote, a structured rule for H.R. 839 and H.R. 861. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.R. 839 and provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides that each amendment made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in Part A of the report. The rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 839 with or without instruction.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.R. 861. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in Part B of the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution. The rule provides that each amendment made in order may be offered only in the order printed in the report (except that amendment Number 9 and amendment number 10 may be offered only en bloc), may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in Part B of

the report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 861 with or without instructions.

On H.R. 839, testimony was heard from: Rep. Biggert; Rep. Gary Miller of California; Rep. Waters; Rep. Maloney of New York; Rep. Miller of North Carolina; and Rep. Jackson Lee of Texas.

On H.R. 861, testimony was heard from: Rep. Biggert; Rep. Gary Miller of California; Rep. Waters; Rep. Maloney of New York; Rep. Jackson Lee of Texas; and Rep. Laura Richardson.

**EFFECTIVELY PROTECTING HOMELAND
SECURITY WITH SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation held a hearing on An Overview of Science and Technology Research and Development Programs and Priorities to Effectively Protect Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Tara O'Toole, Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security; Warren Stern, Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, Department of Homeland Security; David Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Team, GAO; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a markup and passed their views and estimates on the Small Business Administration's FY 2012 budget request.

**FREEDOM OF AMERICANS ON THE HIGH
SEAS**

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Assuring the Freedom of Americans on the High Seas: The United States Response to Piracy. Testimony was heard from Admiral Kevin Cook, Director of Prevention Policy for Marine Safety, Security, and Stewardship, USCG; William Wechsler, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counternarcotics and Global Threats, DOD; Kurt Amend, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Political and Military Affairs, Department of State; and Stephen L. Caldwell, Director, Maritime Security and Coast Guard Issues; GAO.

**MEDPAC ANNUAL MARCH REPORT TO
CONGRESS**

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health met for organizational purposes and held a hearing on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission's (MedPAC) annual March Report to the Congress which details the Commission's recommendations for updating Medicare payment policies. Testimony was heard from Glen M. Hackbarth, Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Department of Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of the Navy, 10:30 a.m., SD-192.

Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 2 p.m., SD-124.

Committee on Armed Services, to receive a closed briefing on the updated National Intelligence Estimate on Iran and other related matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

Committee on the Budget, to hold a joint hearing with the Task Force on Government Performance to examine modernizing performance, focusing on using the new framework, 10 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to hold hearings to examine the state of online consumer privacy, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works, to hold hearings to examine the report to the President from the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance, to hold hearings to examine health reform, focusing on lessons learned during the first year, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations, to receive a closed briefing on Libya, 9 a.m., SVC-217.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Joseph M. Torsella, of Pennsylvania, to be Representative to the United Nations for U.N. Management and Reform, with the rank of Ambassador, Department of State, 10:15 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on Afghanistan, focusing on progress and expectations, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, organizational business meeting to consider subcommittee assignments and the nominations of Kelvin K. Droegemeier, of Oklahoma, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, and Jonathan Andrew Hatfield, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Corporation for National and Community Service, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, business meeting to consider the nominations of Heather A. Higginbottom, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, and Carolyn N. Lerner, of Maryland, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, Time to be announced, S-216, Capitol.

Committee on the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Bernice Bouie Donald, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, J. Paul Oetken, and Paul A. Engelmayer, both to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Ramona Villagomez Manglona, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from AMVETS, Jewish War Veterans, Military Officers Association of America, Gold Star Wives, Blinded Veterans Association, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Fleet Reserve Association, 9:30 a.m., SDG-50.

Special Committee on Aging, to hold hearings to examine securities lending in retirement plans, 2 p.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry, hearing to review the Chesapeake Bay TMDL, agricultural conservation practices, and their implications on national watersheds, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Defense, hearing on FY 2012 Army Budget Overview, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Energy—Science, Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing on FY 2012 Budget, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing on Southwest Border Enforcement, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing on Fish and Wildlife Service FY 2012 Budget Oversight Hearing, 1 p.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, hearing on Department of Health and Human Services FY12 Budget Request, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing on Veterans Affairs Budget, 2 p.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Agencies, hearing on FY 2012 Budget Request for the United Nations and other International Organizations, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing on developments in Afghanistan, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.